

The bedbug – a bloodsucking globetrotter.

The bedbug is a parasite that sucks human blood and can cause a great deal of physical and psychological misery for those afflicted.

BEDBUGS ARE A SERIOUS PROBLEM ONCE AGAIN. Not just in Sweden but all over the world. In the early 1900s bedbugs were associated with poverty, and people believed that they lived in dirty environments, which was not true at all. In the 1940s pesticides were developed that, together with a better standard of living and various domestic appliances, seemed to herald the end for bedbugs. Up until the start of the 2000s bedbug problems were minor. Over the past 5-6 years the situation has changed dramatically throughout the world. In Sweden the problem of bedbugs has increased tenfold.

THERE ARE SEVERAL REASONS WHY BEDBUGS ARE ON THE INCREASE. Previously, effective preparations used organophosphates as the active ingredients, but in 2001 these were banned in Europe and in many other countries. Bedbugs have proved to be resistant to the new insecticides produced since. There is currently no equally effective replacement. And because we all travel more, resistant bedbugs are spreading all over the world.

THERE ARE NO QUICK SOLUTIONS for eradicating bedbugs. Communication, information and training are all important steps in dealing with the problem. Effectively eradicating bedbugs without the use of powerful pesticides requires a lot of knowledge about what lets bedbugs thrive and multiply. In addition to its many years of experience, Anticimex uses the latest, most effective tools and methods such as heat and cold treatment to combat bedbugs. A successful result requires time, resources and cooperation between everyone involved.

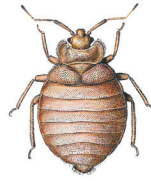


Having problems with bedbugs at home or at work?

Anticimex can help you get rid of them. Because we know the kinds of habitats pests live in we are able to get to the bottom of pest problems. We have been in the pest control industry since 1934 and have built up an enormous wealth of experience. Anticimex means "against the bedbug".

They come out at night to suck blood.

A BEDBUG (CIMEX LECTULARIUS) is the size of an apple pip, 4–5 mm. The female lays 1–5 eggs a day. When the bedbug hatches after 1–2 weeks, it can begin sucking blood immediately. While an empty bedbug is transparent, it turns red-brown once it has sucked blood. If food is lacking it can lie dormant for up to a year. During this time it is no thicker than a credit card and very hard to detect. Bedbugs like to hide in anything from beds to sofas, picture frames, curtains, wheelchairs, radio equipment and fire alarms. They can also be found behind skirting boards and loose wallpaper or in storage boxes and books.



Bedbug (*Cimex lectularius*)
4–5 mm

WHEN IT IS HUNGRY IT SUCKS BLOOD from sleeping humans. The bite is not painful but it can trigger an allergic reaction with symptoms such as itching, swelling and redness. One sign of bedbugs is the presence of small round blood spots on sheets and black dots the size of a pinhead where they live.

BEDBUGS CAN COME HOME WITH YOU IN YOUR LUGGAGE. Once established they can spread further via e.g. secondhand furniture, suitcases and rucksacks. A bedbug can neither jump nor fly; it moves by walking. It causes no material damage, but it does cause a great deal of physical and psychological misery for those afflicted.

IF YOU SUSPECT THAT YOUR HOME HAS BEEN INFESTED by bedbugs, you should contact a pest control firm as soon as possible. You cannot eradicate an infestation of bedbugs by yourself.



91-98-3017 ver. 3 Printed by: www.kottryckredners.se

What to do if you are affected

- Contact a pest control firm as soon as possible.
- Wash textiles at 60° if possible. You can also put them through a tumble dryer on cupboard dry.
- Vacuum everywhere and then throw away the dust bag.
- Also check books, newspapers and ornaments.

Advice for avoiding problems with bedbugs

- Don't put your suitcase under the bed when you stay at a hotel.
- Wash your clothes as soon as you get home and clean your suitcase thoroughly.
- Inspect secondhand furniture before you buy it.